

Indigent Medication Program Clinical Process

1. IMP Coordinator reviews 934 Crystal Report at the beginning of each month. This report identifies clients who may be eligible for IMP based on whether their medications were paid for by County General Funds during the previous month. Clients on this list are not considered for the following reasons:
 - Undocumented Status (depending on the foundation's policy).
 - Are newly granted Medicare/Medical (verified in the MEDS system).
 - Some foundations do not approve prescriptions that are higher than the FDA recommended dosage (Zyprexa, Cymbalta, Geodon).
 - Dosage or medication has changed (verified in the IS).
 - Medication has been prescribed for one month only.
2. IMP Coordinator creates an application for each eligible client on the 934 list and either issues the applications to support staff or has the applications placed in the chart. He/she keeps a tracking record of the clients waiting to be processed and waits for the applications to be returned.
3. Once the IMP Coordinator receives applications, he/she completes all other information and reviews them before sending them to the pharmaceutical foundations. If the applications are complete, he/she will fax or mail them to the foundations and enters the information in the IMP Database. They will then be flagged in the database as "pending" until they are approved. The applications may be rejected, or the process may be stopped or delayed for the following reasons:
 - The client is no longer on the medications (verified in the IS).
 - The PFI is not updated in the client's chart (a requirement for foundations as proof of income).
 - The client does not meet the Foundation's financial requirements.
 - Signature from physician or client is missing.
 - Prescription information is missing (i.e., dosage, frequency). This portion must be written by the physician, as the application is considered an official prescription.
4. Applications take an average of three weeks to be approved, depending on the foundation. Once the application is approved, the foundation will send a three- to four-month supply of medications to Pharmacy Services. The client's status in the IMP database will then change from "pending" to "approved" status.

5. Savings are reflected once the client fills a prescription at the pharmacy, after the application is approved and medications are received by Pharmacy Services. This means savings will NOT be reflected in the STATS report if:
 - The client has a dosage or medication change (IMP process will have to start over).
 - The client sees the psychiatrist, but does not go to the pharmacy to fill prescription.
6. Once the client is approved for IMP, the application is valid for one year, but must be renewed every three to four months, depending on the foundation's requirements. Eli Lilly requires a form signed only by the physician every four months. Sunovion requires a form signed by a physician every three months. All other foundations allow renewals over the phone. The IMP Coordinator monitors renewals every month and updates information with the foundations and the IMP database regularly. Once the year has expired, or if the client is changed to a different IMP medication, he/she will create a new application to be processed and signed by the physician and client.

IMP Eligible Medications

Olanzapine (Eli Lilly)
Duloxetine (Eli Lilly)
Aripiprazole (Bristol-Myers Squibb)
Zispraside (Pfizer)
Iloperidone (Novartis)
Asenapine (Merck)
Lurasidone (Sunovion)